PATENT ST98009A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

BYK ET AL.

EXAMINER:

W. ALVARADO

SERIAL NO.

09/647,678

ART UNIT

FILED

OCTOBER 2, 2000

FOR

NEW AGENTS FOR TRANSFERRING NUCLEIC ACIDS, COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING THEM AND THEIR USES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231

On 14 QUALUT 2001

William C. Coppola Rcg. No. 41,686 (Name of Registered Representative) Ofward Quarter (Signature and Date)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

please amend the above-identified Application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 30: remove the first paragraph and insert therefor:

additional production which is directly involved in the condensation of this nucleic acid.

Preferably, it acts directed at the level of the nucleic acid. For example, the precompacting agent may be any polycation. for example polylysine. According to a preferred embodiment, this